

CLAIMS:

1. A tool component comprising a working layer of ultra-hard abrasive bonded to a substrate along an interface, the working layer presenting a working surface and a periphery around the working surface which provides a cutting edge for the component, the working layer of ultra-hard abrasive having a first region extending into the working layer from the working surface, and a second region in contact with the first region, the wear resistance of the first region being less than that of the second region, wherein the wear resistance of the first region is between 50% and 95% of that of the second region.
2. A tool component according to claim 1, wherein the wear resistance of the first region is between 60% and 90% of that of the second region.
3. A tool component according to claim 2, wherein the wear resistance of the first region is between 70% and 89% of that of the second region.
4. A tool component according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the first and second regions comprise successive layers extending from the working surface into the working layer.
5. A tool component according to claim 4, wherein the first region extends to a depth no more than about 750 microns from the working surface.
6. A tool component according to claim 5, wherein the first region extends to a depth no more than about 500 microns from the working surface.